

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) A vertical take-off and landing vehicle, comprising:

an elongated fuselage formed with front and rear ends and opposite sides and having a longitudinal axis and a transverse axis;

at least one lift-producing propeller carried by said fuselage on each side of said transverse axis, and wherein a plurality of transversely spaced vanes extend across an inlet side of each lift producing propeller on each side of, and substantially parallel to, said longitudinal axis;

a pilot's cockpit formed on one side of said fuselage between said lift-producing propellers, and laterally offset relative to said longitudinal axis;

at least one payload bay formed in said fuselage between said lift-producing propellers and separately accessible from an opposite side of said fuselage but wherein said at least one payload bay extends within said fuselage, across said longitudinal axis such that the pilot's compartment and at least one payload bay are asymmetrical with respect to the longitudinal axis; and

at least two engines, each capable of driving said lift-producing propellers.

7. (Currently Amended) The vehicle according to claim 6 wherein said at least one payload bay includes a support for supporting at least a portion of the a payload, externally of the fuselage.

8. (Currently Amended) The vehicle according to claim 6 wherein at least one said payload bay includes a cover extendable between open and closed positions, and wherein, in said open position, said cover provides support for at least a portion of ~~the~~a payload, externally of said fuselage.

9. (Currently Amended) The vehicle according to claim 6 wherein said at least one payload bay includes at least one seat facing outwardly, perpendicular to said longitudinal axis.

10. (Currently Amended) The vehicle according to claim 6 wherein a cover for said at least one payload bay is hinged on said one side of said fuselage.

11. (Previously Presented) The vehicle according to claim 6 wherein the vehicle includes a flexible skirt extending below the fuselage enabling the vehicle to be used as a hovercraft for movement over ground or water.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Previously Presented) The vehicle according to claim 6 wherein said at least one payload bay is a passenger compartment.